[23rd February 1955

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" சர்க்காருடைய முடிவை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். ஆனால், இப்பொழுது வேலையில் இருக்கக்கூடிய அத்தனை பேரையும் 'கன்பர்ம்' பண்ணுவதற்கு மந்திரி அவர்கள் ஆவன செய்வார்களா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I cannot off-hand say whether all of them will be confirmed. I think they are all necessary for that work and it is not likely that anybody will be asked to go away."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" How many of the number under item (1) sweepers belong to the fair sex and is there any age-limit with regard to their recruitment? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I can hardly expect the hon. Member will be so much interested in that question. If he is interested he can put a separate question and I can furnish all the details required by him."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" அடுத்த வருஷம் இந்தச் சிப்பந்திகளை நிரந்தரம் செய்வதாக மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொன்னார்கள். அதற்கிடையில் கெஜட் பதிவில்லாத சர்க்கார் சிப்பந்திகளுக்கும் கொடுக்கக் கூடிய கல்வி வசதியும், வைத்திய வசதியும் இக் கீழ்தர சிப்பந்திகளுக்கும் கொடுப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Well, that is a separate question. They have not even approached us and it is only the hon. Member who speaks on their behalf."

Retrenchment of workers in Neiveli

* 915 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any communication has been received from the Regional Labour Commissioner, Madras, by the General Superintendent, Neiveli, on or about 1st February 1955 regarding the retrenchment of workers;

(*b*) whether any reply has been sent ; and

(*c*) whether a copy of the correspondence between the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central), Madras, and the General Superintendent, Neiveli, could be placed on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) No, Sir. The remarks of the General Superintendent, Lignite Project, on the letter of the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) have been received and they are under examination by the Government.

" (*c*) As the matter is still under consideration of the Government a copy of the correspondence cannot be placed on the table of the House in the public interest."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Is it not a fact that the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) has stated that the retrenchment effected in Neiveli is against the rules and against the Mines Act and that they should not proceed with retrenchment? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The hon. Deputy Leader of the Opposition may claim to possess all the information about what has passed between the Regional Labour Commissioner (Central) and this Government. But I can at once say that the information which he seeks to give is absolutely incorrect. As I have already stated, I cannot say anything about the correspondence at this stage."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" In view of the different opinion held by the Labour Commissioner (Central)—whatever may be the facts—will the Government consider the desirability of taking back all the workers retrenched? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not concede that there is any difference of opinion and I cannot give an assurance that I can take back all the retrenched workers. The hon. Member may perhaps be aware that one of his colleagues has sent an interpellation to the Parliament which would be taken care of by the Government of India."

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Sir, I fail to understand why a communication which has already been sent should not be revealed to this honourable House. May I know whether it is a confidential thing which will affect public interests? " 8-40 a.m.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, it is a reference by the Regional Labour Commissioner to the General Superintendent of the Neiveli Project and the General Superintendent has offered his remarks on this reference and it is under the examination of this Government. At this stage, the Government do not consider it advisable to reveal all that is passing between the two departments."

Death of cattle in Tiruvallur

* 916 *Q*.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member Sri M. Dharmalingam is not in his place the question and answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a large number of cattle died because of a wide-spread attack of cattle disease in Tiruvallur taluk recently;

(*b*) if so, the number of cattle which died during the months of October, November and December 1954; and